Amendments to the Claims:

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:*

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for testing a candidate drug for treatment or prevention of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) comprising (i) administering the candidate drug to at least one eye of a Ccl2-/-[[,]] knockout mouse, Ccr2-/- knockout mouse and/or a Ccl2-/-/Ccr2-/- knockout mouse, ~~which~~ wherein the at least one eye exhibits at least one symptom comprising drusen accumulation, lipofuscin accumulation, thickening of Bruch's membrane, retinal degeneration, choroidal neovascularization, or a combination thereof, ~~in at least one eye, and analyzing the at least one eye for development or regression of drusen and/or lipofuscin accumulation therein, for affect of the candidate drug on Bruch's membrane, affect on retinal degeneration, in at least one eye, and/or affect on choroidal neovascularization of at least one eye~~

(ii) determining the effect of the candidate drug on the at least one symptom, and (iii) correlating the effect of the test compound on the at least one symptom with a potential utility to treat or prevent AMD.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the candidate drug is nucleic acid.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the candidate drug comprises a viral vector encoding wild-type Ccl2.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the candidate drug comprises a viral vector encoding wild type Ccr2.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein analyzing the at least one eye comprises determining amount and type of drusen or lipofuscin, extent of retinal degeneration, or neovascularization developed therein or a combination thereof.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the at least one eye is analyzed by ophthalmoscopy, angiography, histopathology or a combination thereof.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the candidate drug is administered to the mouse orally, intravenously, intraperitoneally, intravitreously, transsclerally or topically.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the candidate drug is administered topically to at least one eye of the mouse.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the candidate drug is a pharmaceutical compound, small molecule, peptide, antibody, antibody fragment, aptamer or nucleic acid.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the nucleic acid is an oligonucleotide or polynucleotide in either the sense or antisense orientation or an aptamer.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of screening a candidate drug for potential utility for treatment of age-related macular degeneration, comprising:

(a) providing a [[ ]]Ccl2-/- and/or CCR2-/- knockout mouse which exhibits drusen accumulation, lipofuscin accumulation, thickening of Bruch's membrane, retinal degeneration, choroidal neovascularization, or a combination thereof in at least one eye,[[,;]]

(b) administering the candidate drug to the knockout mouse;

(c) determining the effect of the candidate drug on drusen, lipofuscin deposition, retinal degeneration, and/or choroidal neovascularization in at least one eye of the knockout mouse; and

(d) correlating the effect of the candidate drug on drusen, lipofuscin accumulation, retinal degeneration, and/or choroidal neovascularization with a potential utility to treat age-related macular degeneration.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the candidate drug is administered topically to at least one eye of the mouse.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the candidate drug is nucleic acid.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the candidate drug comprises a viral vector encoding wild-type Ccl2.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the candidate drug comprises a viral vector encoding wild type Ccr2.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein analyzing the at least one eye comprises determining amount and type of drusen or lipofuscin, retinal degeneration, neovascularization developed therein or a combination thereof.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 11 wherein the at least one eye is analyzed by ophthalmoscopy, angiography, histopathology, mass spectometry or a combination thereof.

18. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the candidate drug is administered to the mouse orally, intravenously, intraperitoneally, intravitreously, transsclerally or topically.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the candidate drug is administered topically to at least one eye of the mouse.

20. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the candidate drug is a pharmaceutical compound, small molecule, peptide, antibody, antibody fragment, aptamer or nucleic acid.

21. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the nucleic acid is an oligonucleotide or polynucleotide in either the sense or antisense orientation or an aptamer.

22. (Currently Amended) A Ccl2-/-deficient/CCR2-/- knockout mouse which exhibits at least one symptom comprising drusen accumulation, lipofuscin accumulation, thickening of Bruch's membrane, retinal degeneration, choroidal neovascularization, or a combination thereof in at least one eye.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the candidate drug is administered intravitreously by injection or by sustained delivery implant, to at least one eye of the mouse.

24. (Original). The method of claim 7 wherein the candidate drug is administered transsclerally to at least one eye of the mouse.

25. (Previously Presented ) The method of claim 11 wherein candidate drug is administered intravitreously by injection or by sustained delivery implant, to at least one eye of the mouse.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the candidate drug is administered transsclerally to at least one eye of the mouse.

27. (Original). The method of claim 18 wherein the candidate drug is administered intravitreously by injection or by sustained delivery implant to at least one eye of the mouse.

28. (Original). The method of claim 18 wherein the candidate drug is administered transsclerally to at least one eye of the mouse.

29-38. (Canceled).

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the candidate drug comprises stem cells obtained from a wild-type mouse and intravitreously injected into the Ccl2-/-, Ccr2-/- and/or Ccl2-/-/Ccr2-/- knockout mouse.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the candidate drug comprises stem cells obtained from a wild-type mouse and injected intravitreously into the Ccl2-/- and/or CCR2-/- knockout mouse.